

than has been known, since the useful work of the notoriously predaceous larva is supplemented by the predaceous work of the adults. In the struggle for existence, however, the position of this family is decidedly less advantageous than formerly supposed, inasmuch as, not only the larval food, but also the amount of food available for the adult insect, is an important factor in determining the number of individuals.

A Species of *Macrotracheliella* found in New England (Hemip., Anthocoridae).

By H. M. PARSHLEY, Bussey Institution, Harvard University.

While examining not long ago some unmounted insects belonging to the Boston Society of Natural History, I found an Anthocorid bug unlike anything I had previously seen. I sent it with some other doubtful specimens to Mr. O. Heidemann, who returned it without comment as "*Macrotracheliella* sp.," another instance of my friend's well-known acumen and willingness to give others the benefit of his great knowledge of the Hemiptera. This genus was founded by Champion in the *Biologia*¹ to contain a new species, *M. laevis*, of which he had examples from Mexico and Panama. The occurrence of a very closely related species in New England is one of those troublesome facts of distribution which every now and then arise to confront us with our profound ignorance of what is or has been really going on, notwithstanding our theories of zones, soils, land-bridges, and so forth.

The specimen at hand agrees in every particular with Champion's generic diagnosis but differs from *M. laevis* in certain characters of specific value. For those who do not have access to the *Biologia* it may be of service to present the chief characters of the genus, especially as it has not been reported hitherto as occurring in the Nearctic region.

MACROTRACHELIELLA Champion.

Anterior lobe of pronotum narrow and conical forming a continuous outline with the elongated cylindrical basal part of

¹Biol. Cent.-Am., Ins., Rhynch. II., p. 322, Tab. 19. figs. 21, 22, 22a.

the head, apical collar present; eyes distant from the front of the pronotum; rostrum short, not reaching the front coxae. Embolium narrow, linear; membrane with only one vein, situated near the inner margin. Mesosternum greatly developed, convex, with a short anterior carina; metasternal orifices long, curved forward, reaching the lateral and anterior borders of the metapleurae. Legs slender, the femora somewhat thickened. Body oblong, shining, clothed with sparse hairs. Wing-cell with a hamus.

This genus belongs to the Anthocorinae and should be placed before *Anthocoris* which is easily distinguished from it by the much less elongate head and pronotum and the 4-veined membrane. *Triphleps* contains smaller species with 3-veined membrane.

Macrotracheliella nigra sp. nov.

Shining black, third antennal segment narrowly yellow at base, tarsi dark brown, paler beneath. First antennal segment not quite reaching apex of head, second about twice the length of the first, enlarged in apical half, third somewhat longer than the first, fourth missing. Pronotum impressed just within the slightly knobbed lateral angles, posterior lobe convex, very finely punctate, declivous, meeting the impunctate horizontal anterior lobe in a sharply defined transverse line. Scutellum convex and finely punctate basally, the apical half strongly depressed, flat, transversely rugose, acute at apex. Hemielytra very obscurely punctate, the corium longitudinally convex, the cuneus deflected and slightly concave; membrane extending beyond apex of abdomen, brown, narrowly pale along lateral half of cuneal margin and at the inner basal angle. Clothed above and below with very sparse erect hairs, legs and antennae sparsely pilose, the pubescence of the tibiae finer and close. Length 2.5 mm.

Holotype ♀, Chilmark, Massachusetts, 14 Aug., 1911 (J. A. Cushman), in the collection of the Boston Society of Natural History.

Closely related to *M. laevis* Champ., to judge by the description and figures, but differs from that species in having the third antennal segment pale only at base and the hemielytra entirely black while the first and second antennal segments are shorter. (In the type specimen the fourth antennal segments have been broken off).